

IRELAND'S PRESENT STATE.

JOHN D. CRIMMINS OBSERVATIONS ON A RECENT VISIT.

He Found Contentment and Prosperity There—Ireland Working Out Its Own Salvation Better Means of Transit and Modifications of the Land Act Still Needed—Ways for Americans to Help Ireland's Improved Condition Today.

John D. Crimmins has just returned from a visit to Ireland. His observations there are of much interest. In giving an account of the present state of Ireland and its people, he said:

"My visit to Ireland was purposefully made that I might through my own spectacles and from the people's lips learn the condition of Ireland.

"With the exception of Dublin, where I found much interest and instruction in visiting the libraries, museums and public parks and in drives extending many miles through the beautiful suburbs, I did not remain longer in the cities than to enable me to establish a location from which to start for the country districts.

"I was impressed with the great number of people reading in the public libraries of Dublin. I do not think I exaggerate when I say that at any hour of the day you will find as many people reading in the libraries of Dublin as in all the libraries of our great city combined. These readers embrace every class from the venerable scholar to the young students of both sexes.

"In Dublin I was present at the college games held within the grounds of old Trinity. The field and campus are such as any college boy would envy.

"I have been present at Harvard, Yale,

Princeton and Columbia and have seen our boys line up. The Irish boys are athletic and fond of it. Taking into consideration their numbers they could hold their own with the best of our boys and that is glory enough.

"My principal object during my visit was to see and study the people. I was much impressed with the young girls present at the games. They were most becomingly and modestly dressed. I would consider them slighted in physique than our American girls.

"They possess a high color and I have excellent teeth. The climate, no doubt, has much to do with their beautiful complexion. I also observed that they are not as tall as our American girls.

"I had opportunities to see the ladies again at the races, horse shows and fairs, to which I travelled many miles that I might see and meet the people in different situations and parts of Ireland. I was much impressed with the taste shown by the Irish girls in dressing. They avoid gaudy dresses, lots of exquisite Irish lace or collars and insertions in the gowns and sleeves are worn.

CONTENTMENT IN IRELAND.

"I looked through my own eyes at every feature of Irish life I met with. After mixing in these gatherings and seeing the joy, contentment and ease of manner prevailing, it is difficult to understand how Ireland can be termed a distressed country. I hold it is not.

"That there have been unfortunate and distressful conditions in the past and that such conditions existed for a long period previous to 1870, created largely through English legislation and the administration of it, will not be disputed. I am speaking of Ireland as I found it in 1900.

"I would not attempt to paint a picture of Ireland's long night, but prefer to take as my text the contemplation of the future, quoting Cardinal Newman: 'I look toward a land both young and old; old in its Christianity and young in its promises for the future.' The social revolution is moving on in Ireland with intelligence as its guiding hand and its trend is toward contentment with prosperity.

The beginning of the new order dates from the great Land Act of Mr. Gladstone of 1870 and the amendments which followed. There will still be anomalies, and it will not be completed until the Compensation Purchase act becomes a law. Under the present act, up to the beginning of this year 60,000 holdings have been sold to tenants and sales are being made daily. These holdings are widely distributed and may be easily packed out in travelling through the country, as these farms appear to be better farmed than those on which the farmer is still a tenant.

"It is well to bear in mind that Ireland is essentially an agricultural country. The entire income of Ireland is \$100,000,000, \$20,000,000 of which comes from the land.

"The means to acquire land under the Land act are as follows: The land owner having consented to a sale of his land, the Land Commission makes up of men of wide experience and high character an appraisal of the property to determine the value of the land and fix the terms of payment, fifteen or twenty-one years. Many of the farmers take advantage of the privilege of paying earlier. The seller of the property receives his money immediately, it being provided by the Government.

THE TRANSIT QUESTION.

"The transit question is receiving the most intelligent attention. I have not at hand the railway mileage or the canal mileage of Ireland. I should judge that both are inadequate for economy and efficiency in the movement of produce.

An Irish member of Parliament, Mr. McLean, who is a farmer and who has given considerable attention to economics, writing on the transit question, attaches attention to the necessity for a good railway and a good road system. It would appear that the Irishman is to be preferred to the Englishman in this respect.

"There are 5,200,000 acres under grass or used as grazing lands, which estimates produce 42 acre, and 1,300,000 acres under tillage producing 43 acre, a difference between grazing and tillage land of 10 per cent.

"The difficulty, as demonstrated, is in bringing the products of the tilled land to market in many situations. By the utilization of the waterways, built for the roads, some of the cost of transportation would be reduced.

Under the present act, the council is entitled to go through the farming districts and select half acres of ground, fronting on the roadside on which it causes to be erected laborers' cottages. I observed that these cottages were generally located on high ground, built of stone with slate roofs and consist of two large rooms, which may be subdivided. Some of these cottages present a very attractive appearance and many of them are two stories high. They are to be seen in every town, I think.

"He speaks also of the great advantages of transportation by waterway. In the first place, there is almost complete immunity from risk of loss or deterioration or depreciation of goods carried by canals or rivers, as compared with the modern modes of transit. He also says: 'I believe that tillage can scarcely be made to pay under the existing conditions of transit rates and facilities.'

"He goes further and shows that the most largely used for conveying products is the railroads, some 1,700 miles per Irish mile. So we see it costs the Irish farmer four times as much to send his products by rail as carriage as it would by canal, and thirty times more by cart.

"There is now expended \$100,000 in establishing a road system, carried on by a society of which Mr. McLean is a member. My purpose in referring to this is to show that the Irish farmer is to progress in every direction which will improve his condition.

THE LAND QUESTION.

"As I have stated, it is easy to pick out the farms which are held by the farmers in fee simple, most tidy and prosperous appearance there present. Where the same can be said of farms worked by tenants,

it may be assumed that the landlords are just and her gestures and manner were evidence of her high training. She possessed much dramatic talent.

"The national schools of Ireland are excellent and as I walked in without introduction, I had full opportunity to see the children there daily taught. On calling in a national school early one morning, I was requested to return later for though the school day begins at 8 o'clock in the morning, the children are not all gathered together until 10 or half-past 10.

"The Irish music is taught in these schools and the Gaelic songs sung by the children sound very sweetly. You will observe on the posts at the cross-roads in Ireland the direction to the village. The signs over the shop windows are Latinized so that the young girls had Gaelic inscriptions on the backs of their hats.

"Dancing is also taught in the schools and I saw many pretty steps. They had these exhibitions in the schools I visited.

I was much impressed with the application of the children to their books and they appeared bright and intelligent. As is generally known, the Irish are fond of books and it is the parents highest ambition that the children should receive a good education.

"The directors are David H. Moffat, Walter S. Chesebrough, William G. Evans, Charles M. Gerry and F. B. Gibson, all of Denver. Several of these directors took an active part in the building of the first railway system in the country. They have been prominent in many railroad enterprises.

D. H. Moffat, President of the First National Bank of Denver, formerly of New York, was elected President W. G. Evans, President of the Denver City Tramway Company, Vice-President of the First National Bank of Denver, Treasurer, and F. B. Gibson, Vice-President and manager of the International Trust company.

This road connects at Salt Lake City with the San Pedro, Los Angeles and the Union Pacific, and the new trans-

continental line of Denver to the Pacific Ocean, and it will enter direct competition with the St. Louis and San Francisco.

The capital stock is \$100,000,000, of which \$10,000,000 is preferred at 6 per cent non-cumulative, and \$10,000,000 common.

IRISH MOVEMENT PROMINENT.

"The Gaelic movement has become very prominent and it appears to me that it is to be permanent. There are a number of papers printed in Gaelic and English, prayer books are also to be found in Gaelic and English.

"The Irish children are very apt in acquiring the language. Some of the parents told me that as they had no opportunity for learning Gaelic in their youth, they were unable to speak it, although they could understand it, but their children could speak it easily.

"It is my judgment that in all their affairs the Irish people are able to take care of themselves and are not and no not wish to be considered a poverty-stricken race. Mr. Redmond himself, the leader of the Irish Parliamentary party, during the composition of the two-mile tunnel through the Continental Divide, 'switchbacks' are being located so that the trains will pass the younger and Kinsella the older are said to have heard the noise of somebody crashing through the shrubbery in the rear of the Laramie house a few minutes after the shooting.

Mr. Morrison said yesterday that the miners were prepared to him for permission to take Mr. Laramie's statement, except on the day of the death, when Coroner Flaherty called and was admitted to see the patient, who was then unconscious.

Mr. Morrison did not wish to let the coroner's statement be heard, as he had put up the hospital every day and asked if Mr. Laramie was in a condition to make a statement.

The police situation is precisely where it was on the day after the murder. They have not a shadow of evidence to connect anybody even remotely with the crime.

CUT RATES MAKE TROUBLE.

Protest From Trunk Line Association to Central Passenger Association.

The Trunk Line Association has sent a formal protest to Commissioner Donald of the Central Passenger Association against the action of certain Western railroads in making cut rates from Chicago and St. Louis to Eastern points. The Central passenger roads operate only east of Chicago and St. Louis and west of Buffalo and Pittsburgh.

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"The Board of Agriculture illustrates work by the establishment of modern fair at the fairs, where the most improved methods are shown at the exposition in which the city the Secretary of the Treasury is located. Here they have a model farm in full operation.

"I have also seen model farms in the vicinity of the exposition grounds. Those who have seen French farmer planting and cultivating his crops, may see the same neatness and effective work in Ireland.

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FIGHT FOR COLORADO FUEL.

Gates Party Demand Through the Courts.

List of Shareholders.

Argument will be heard in Part I, Special Term of the Supreme Court, to-morrow morning on an application made in behalf of Harris, Gates & Co., by Horowitz, Byrne, Miller & Potter, as counsel, for an order to compel the Knickerbocker Trust Company to furnish a list of stockholders of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company.

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NO VANDERBILT MEDIATION.

William K. Vanderbilt's Departure for Europe Not a Surprise to His Friends.

William K. Vanderbilt's departure for Europe last week was not unexpected by his friends, although Wall Street learned of his going three days after he had sailed. Business associates of Mr. Vanderbilt say that the object of his return to this country a few weeks ago was only to attend the annual meeting of the Chicago and Northwestern stockholders. He left his steam yacht Valiant on the other side, with instructions to be ready in getting an extended cruise in August.

Just before sailing for Europe last Tuesday Mr. Vanderbilt told his friends that he was satisfied with the railroad situation, and gave no intimation of his return to America.

"I endeavored to ascertain the position of the English party. They are very loud and demonstrative, but their following is not numerous. A priest from the west of Ireland, Galway, stated to me that while in Dublin he with three others attended a mass at the cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

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